

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A system for retracting opposed surfaces of a bone joint, said system comprising:

a cannula having a passage to percutaneously access a site proximate the opposed surfaces; and

a retractor including a shaft and an inflatable bladder disposed at the end of the shaft, said retractor being introducable through the cannula passage so that the bladder may be positioned between the opposed surfaces, wherein expansion of the bladder separates the opposed surfaces.

Claim 2 (Withdrawn): A system as in claim 1, wherein the inflatable bladder comprises at least one rigid surface.

Claim 3 (Withdrawn): A system as in claim 1, wherein the inflatable bladder comprises areas of rigidity interleaved with areas of more elasticity.

Claim 4 (Original): A system as in claim 1, wherein the inflatable bladder is eccentrically shaped or mounted on the shaft.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): A system as in claim 1, wherein the inflatable bladder does not substantially stretch when fully inflated.

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Claim 6 (Currently amended): A system as in claim 1, wherein the inflatable bladder operates at inflation pressures from about 10 mmHg to about 1000 mmHg.

Claim 7 (Currently amended): A system as in claim 1, wherein the inflatable bladder operates at inflation pressures from about 100 mmHg to about 1000 mmHg.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): A system as in claim 1, wherein the shaft is substantially rigid.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): A system as in claim 1, wherein the shaft is substantially flexible.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): A system as in any of claims 1 to or 4-9, further comprising a viewing scope.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): A system as in ~~any of~~ claim 1, further comprising an interventional instrument.

Claim 12 (New): A system as in claim 1, wherein the opposed surfaces include bone tissue and soft tissue.